

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EB-07 /070 W

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R 251843Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8863

INFO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CD, FR

SUBJECT: LE MONDE CORRESPONDENT SUGGESTS FRENCH INVOLVE-  
MENT IN TOMBALBAYE'S OVERTHROW

1. IN LONG ARTICLE DATED N'DJAMENA WHICH APPEARS IN  
APRIL 26 ISSUE OF LE MONDE, PIERRE BIARNES QUOTES  
GENDARMERIE MAJOR KAMOUNGE AS SAYING OVER RADIO CHAD  
THAT TOMBALBAYE "PAID MERCENARIES TO WATCH OVER US, BUT  
IN FACT, THOSE PEOPLE WERE KEEPING US INFORMED." BIARNES  
NOTES THAT TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE, (EX-FRENCH) MAJOR  
CAMILLE GOURVENEC WAS RETAINED BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT AS  
HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE. HE ASSERTS THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE  
THAT FRANCE DID NOT KNOW THE COUP WAS BEING PREPARED AND  
SAYS TOMBALBAYE WAS NOT WARNED ON PURPOSE. "IN FACT,  
PARIS CAN COUNT ON ENJOYING HENCEFORTH MUCH BETTER  
RELATIONS WITH CHADIAN LEADERS."

2. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY INDICATING THAT THE FRENCH  
ARE INTERESTED IN CHAD BECAUSE OF PROSPECTS FOR OIL IN  
THE SOUTH AND MINERALS IN THE NORTH AND TO RETAIN THEIR  
AIRBASE AT N'DJAMENA, "CENTER OF THE MILITARY APPARATUS  
IN CENTRAL AFRICA AND, WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED, AN

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IMPORTANT AIR BASE FOR THE FORCES IN DJIBOUTI."

RUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PARIS10658  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750146-0907  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750416/aaaaapbi.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LE MONDE CORRESPONDENT SUGGESTS FRENCH INVOLVE- MENT IN TOMBALBAYE'S OVERTHROW  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, CD, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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